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**DEC 03 2004**

Appl. No. 09/784,654  
Appl filing Feb 15, 2001  
Reply to Office action of Oct. 12, 2004

**FORMAL RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Appl. No. : 09/784,654 Confirmation No. 5564  
Applicant : GONZOLEZ, THOMAS A  
Filed : Feb 15, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 2632  
Examiner : Nguyen, Tai T  
Docket No. : 01-0214  
Customer No.: 37038

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Examiner:

This is a reply is the made is in response to the office action of October 12, 2004. Please consider the following reply to the office as follows:

**Remarks/Arguments**

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Neher (US 6,362,778) in view of Otto (US 5,982,808).

Neher has a filing date of March 9, 2001. The application being examined was filed before the Neher application, on February 15, 2001. Due to the earlier filing date of this application, Neher can't be used as prior art. In addition, the earliest